

REMARKS

Examiner Interview Summary

A telephonic Examiner Interview was conducted with Examiner Gishnock and the Applicant's undersigned representative on 4/12/2010. Proposed claim amendments with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 were discussed. An agreement was reached that the proposed amendments to independent Claims 73-75 overcome the relied upon references. Applicants have respectfully amended independent Claims 73-75 with the proposed amendments that were discussed during the Examiner Interview.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 40-44, 47-49, 52-55, 57, 59, 60, 63-67, 69, and 71-75 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being allegedly anticipated by Blume (U.S. 6,915,103) (hereinafter Blume). Applicants have amended independent Claims 73-75 with the proposed limitations that were discussed during the Examiner Interview. Examiner Gishnock agreed that the proposed claim amendments overcome the rejections of record. As such, independent Claims 73-75 obviate the rejection. Dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency. As such, allowance of Claims 38-44, 46-48, 50-60 and 62-75 is earnestly solicited.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 38, 39, 46, 50-51, 56, 58, 62, 68 and 70 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being allegedly unpatentable over Blume in view of Kardach

(U.S. 2003/0001020) (hereinafter Kardach). Claims 38, 39, 46, 50-51, 56, 58, 62, 68 and 70 depend from independent Claims 73, 74 and 75 and are patentable over the cited references by virtue of their dependency.

For the above reasons, the Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above listed remarks, reconsideration of the rejected Claims is requested. Based on the arguments presented above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 38-44, 46-48, 50-60, and 62-75 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, allowance of Claims 38-44, 46-48, 50-60, and 62-75 is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,
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